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 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Roomster](#) Reports Record-High Roommate Rents Across Major U.S. Cities in 2026 — New Data Reveals Top 25 Most Expensive Cities for Shared Living

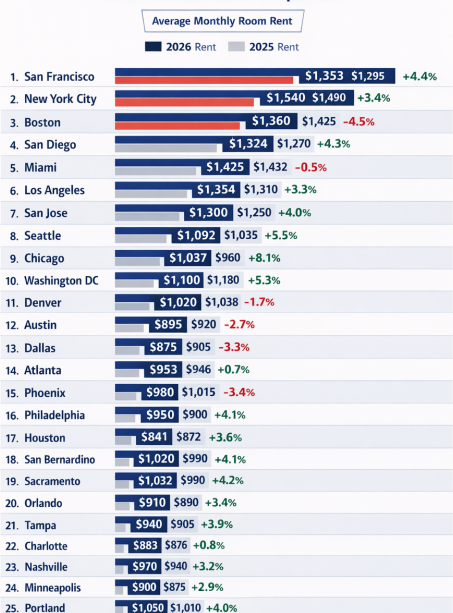
Roomster, the world’s leading roommate matching platform, today released new data from its Roomster Rental Index 2026, revealing that roommate rents have reached record highs across multiple major U.S. metros — reinforcing that shared living is no longer just a lifestyle choice, but a financial necessity.

According to Roomster’s analytics division, average room rents surged in early 2026, with several cities hitting all-time highs — particularly across California and major urban hubs. Industry-wide data shows rents in cities like San Francisco (\$1,353), San Diego (\$1,324), Seattle (\$1,092), and Chicago (\$1,037) reaching record levels, driven by persistent supply-demand imbalances.

“[Roommates](#) are no longer optional — they are essential,” said John Shriber, Co-Founder of Roomster. “The data confirms what millions of renters already know: affordability in 2026 depends on shared living, and Roomster is at the center of that shift.”

Key Findings from Roomster Rental Index 2026
 Record highs in major metros: Multiple U.S. cities hit all-time roommate rent peaks in 2026,

Top 25 Roomster U.S. Roommate Cities
 2026 vs 2025 Rent Comparison



Roomster Proprietary data of average monthly room rents in the U.S

particularly on the West Coast.

Fastest growth markets: Chicago (+8.1%), Philadelphia (+5.6%), and Seattle (+5.5%) are seeing the steepest increases.

Affordability crisis persists: Many renters are spending over 40% of income on housing.

Behavioral shifts: Renters are increasingly sacrificing space — including living rooms — to reduce costs.

Miami stabilization trend: While demand is rising, rents in Miami have slightly stabilized year-over-year (-0.5%), signaling a competitive but maturing market.

Roomster's Role in the Market

As affordability pressures intensify, Roomster continues to lead the roommate matching category by:

Providing the largest global inventory of rooms and roommates

Supporting renters with 24/7 customer service

Enabling faster, smarter roommate matching in high-demand cities

"Shared living is the fastest-growing housing segment in the U.S.," added Shriber. "Roomster isn't just participating in that trend — we're defining it."

“

Roommates are no longer optional in high-cost cities — they are essential”

John Shriber

Two Decades of Innovation in Roommate Matching

Since its founding, Roomster has consistently led the evolution of the roommate economy:

Pioneered digital roommate matching before all others in the space.

Built one of the largest global roommate networks, spanning hundreds of cities

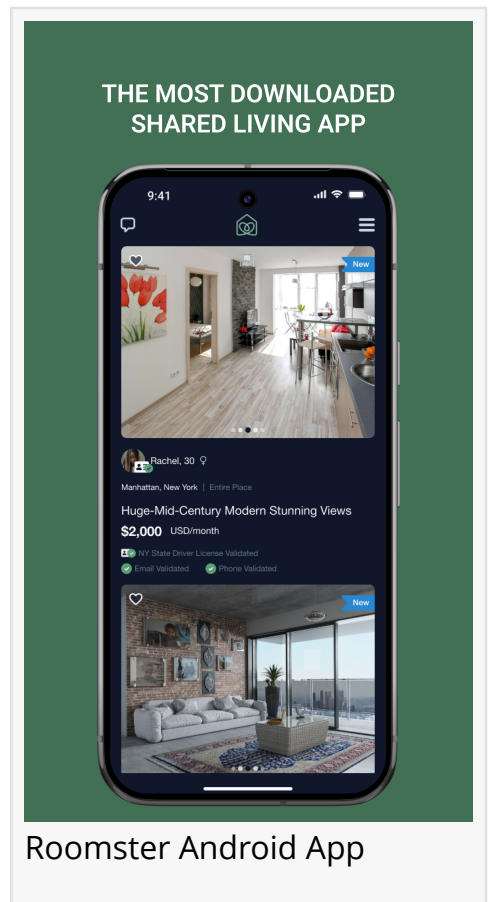
Introduced free ID and address check to enhance trust and safety across the platform

Delivered 24/7 customer support, ensuring users can navigate the housing market with confidence

Continues to innovate with features that reflect the realities of modern renters

Co-Founder Roman Zaks added,

“Roomster has always been about more than listings — it's about connecting people. Over the last 20 years, we've helped define an entirely new category of housing. Today, that category is becoming the mainstream.”



Roomster Android App

Roomster's Role in the Future of Housing

As housing affordability continues to challenge renters nationwide, Roomster remains at the forefront — not just as a platform, but as a category leader shaping how people live.

With millions of users, unmatched global reach, and a continued focus on safety, accessibility, and innovation, Roomster is positioned to lead the next phase of shared living worldwide.

"Shared housing isn't a trend — it's infrastructure," added Shriber. "And Roomster is proud to have built the foundation."

About Roomster

Roomster is the world's #1 leading roommate finder platform, connecting people to [rooms for rent](#) and compatible roommates across major cities globally. Founded by John Shriber and Roman Zaks, Roomster has spent over two decades transforming how people find shared housing — making it safer, easier, and more accessible for millions. The Roomster app has been downloaded over 10 million times, making Roomster the leader in online roommate matching.

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